

FORM PTO-1390 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE <b>TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES</b> <b>DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)</b> <b>CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371</b>		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER: EdV/CAP/SD BET 01/0251  U.S. APPL. NO. (if known) see 37 CFR 1.5 <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 5px;">09/807544</div>
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/FR99/02440	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: 11 October 1999 (11.10.99)	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED: 13 October 1998
TITLE OF INVENTION: DEVICE FOR ACQUIRING AND TRANSFERRING DATA CONCERNING PAYMENT MEANS TO A BANKING INSTITUTE		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US: Bruno MILLION-ROUSSEAU and Christian JUNKER		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This is a <b>FIRST</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.	
2. <input type="checkbox"/>	This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.	
3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).	
4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.	
5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))	
a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).	
b. <input type="checkbox"/>	has been transmitted by the International Bureau. (see attached copy of PCT/IB/308)	
c. <input type="checkbox"/>	is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).	
<input type="checkbox"/>	A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).	
a. <input type="checkbox"/>	are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).	
b. <input type="checkbox"/>	have been transmitted by the International Bureau.	
c. <input type="checkbox"/>	have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.	
d. <input type="checkbox"/>	have not been made and will not be made.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).	
Item 11. to 16. below concern document(s) or information included:		
11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.	
12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.	
13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A <b>FIRST</b> preliminary amendment.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	A <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> preliminary amendment.	
14. <input type="checkbox"/>	A substitute specification.	
15. <input type="checkbox"/>	A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.	
16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other items or information: International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/409), International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210), Application Data Sheet	

U.S. APPLICATION NO. <b>09/807544</b>		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO PCT/FR99/02440		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO. EdV/CAP/SD BET 01/0251	
17. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted:  <b>BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5)):</b> Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO ..... \$ 1,000.00  International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO ..... \$ 860.00  International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO ..... \$ 710.00  International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ..... \$ 690.00  International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ..... \$ 100.00  <div style="text-align: right;"><b>ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =</b></div>				CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).				\$	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	\$	
Total claims	10 - 20 =	0	X \$18.00	\$	
Independent claims	1 - 3 =	0	X \$80.00	\$	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS(S) (if applicable)			+ \$270.00	\$	
<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</b>				\$	860.00
Reduction of 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. Applicant claims Small Entity Status under 37 CFR 1.27.				\$	
<b>SUBTOTAL =</b>				\$	860.00
Processing fee of \$130 for furnishing the English translation later than months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.49(f)).				\$	
<b>TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</b>				\$	860.00
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property				\$	40.00
<b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</b>				\$	900.00
				Amount to be refunded:	
				charged:	
a.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A check in the amount of \$ <b>900</b> to cover the above fees is enclosed.			
b.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Please charge my Deposit Account No. <b>25-0120</b> in the amount of \$ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.			
c.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required by 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <b>25-0120</b> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.			
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO  YOUNG & THOMPSON 745 South 23rd Street 2nd Floor Arlington, VA 22202 (703) 521-2297 facsimile (703) 685-0573 <b>Customer Number: 000466</b>					
			April 13, 2001  By <u><i>Benoît Castel</i></u> Benoît Castel Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 35,041		

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Bruno MILLION-ROUSSEAU et al.

Serial No. (unknown)

Filed herewith

DEVICE FOR ACQUIRING AND FOR  
TRANSFERRING INFORMATION  
RELATING TO PAYMENT MEANS  
TO A BANKING ORGANIZATION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee, please substitute pages 1-3 of the specification as originally filed, with pages 1-3 as filed in the Article 34 amendment of September 8, 2000. The replacement pages are marked "AMENDED SHEET" and are attached hereto. Following the insertion of replacement pages 1-3, please amend these claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-10:

Add the following new claims.

--11.(new) A device for acquiring information relating to payment means and for transferring this information to a server center of a banking organization, the device comprising means (14) for reading the payment means connected to a central processing unit (20) and means (22) for dialing

09807544 "041301

Bruno MILLION-ROUSSEAU et al.

telephone numbers associated with a modem (26) for establishing a telephone link with the server center, in which the means (22;44) for dialing telephone numbers and the associated modem (26;46) consist of elements of wireless telephony circuits, characterized in that the device furthermore comprises second means (24) for dialing telephone numbers and a second modem (28) associated with these means, consisting of elements of wired telephony circuits, and a switching facility (36) for selectively placing the central unit (20) in communication with the first (22) or second (24) means for dialing telephone numbers.

--12.(new) The device as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the switching facility (36) consists of a switching facility which can be actuated manually by a user.

--13.(new) The device as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the switching facility (36) comprises voltage detection means provided in a circuit for interfacing with a switched telephone network.

--14.(new) The device as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that said first means (44) for dialing telephone numbers and the associated modem (46) are disposed in a box separate from the remainder of the device and in that the box comprises, connected at the input of these latter, a circuit (38) for emulating a switched telephone network associated with means (40) for detecting telephone numbers dialed by said second means (24) for dialing and means (50)



Bruno MILLION-ROUSSEAU et al.

R E M A R K S

The above changes in the specification and claims merely place this national phase application in the same condition as it was during Chapter II of the international phase, with the multiple dependencies being removed. Following entry of this amendment, only claims 11-20 remain pending in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

By

Benoit Castel

Benoit Castel  
Attorney for Applicants  
Customer No. 000466  
Registration No. 35,041  
745 South 23<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Arlington, VA 22202  
Telephone: 703/521-2297

April 13, 2001

157 34 AMDT

08-09-2000

- 1 -

09/807544  
JC03 Rec'd OCT/2000  
FR 009902440 13 APR 2001

The present invention relates to a device for acquiring and for transferring information relating to payment means to a banking organization.

5 Conventionally, such devices comprise means for reading the payment means connected to a central processing unit, and means for dialing telephone numbers associated with a modem for establishing a telephone link with the server center.

10 An exemplary device of this type consists of electronic payment terminals.

These terminals, located at a trader's, make it possible to perform transaction by bank card, securely.

15 They comprise a fixed base furnished with means of connection to a telephone line and a terminal proper equipped with a card reader and with a keypad making it possible to enter the amount of the transaction to be performed and enabling the card bearer to identify himself/herself.

20 Electronic payment terminals require the establishment of a telephone link with the server center of a banking organization, on the one hand, to obtain an authorization number in respect of transactions pertaining to sums greater than a pre-determined  
25 threshold value, currently fixed at FF 600 and, on the other hand, to periodically credit the trader's bank account with the sums corresponding to the transactions performed.

30 Under certain circumstances, for example in the case of a travelling trader, or when the trader has a stand at a trade show, that is to say in situations in which no telephone socket is available to the trader, it is not possible to obtain, with the aid of the electronic payment terminal, a prior authorization number  
35 and to credit his account with the takings received.

A trader can also be confronted with this same problem when he wishes to use a device for reading and

AMENDED SHEET

09807544-041301

verifying checks which also requires the establishing of a telephoning link with a banking organization.

Reference may also be made to the document WO-A-9520195 which describes a device in accordance with the preamble of claim 1 but which poses transmission reliability problems.

The aim of the invention is to alleviate these drawbacks.

Its subject is therefore a device for acquiring information relating to payment means and for transferring this information to a server center of a banking organization, of the abovementioned type, in which the means for dialing telephone numbers and the associated modem consist of elements of wireless telephony circuits, characterized in that the device furthermore comprises second means for dialing telephone numbers and a second modem associated with these means, consisting of elements of wired telephony circuits, and a switching facility for selectively placing the central unit in communication with the first or second means for dialing telephone numbers.

The expression "element of wireless telephony circuit" is understood to mean, within the framework of the present description, circuits of a mobile or cellular telephone apparatus, that is to say, of a telephone set communicating over the airwaves with a relay or base station covering a geographical zone of the public telephone network.

The device for acquiring and for transferring information relating to payment means, according to the invention, can furthermore comprise one or more of the following characteristics, taken in isolation or according to all technically possible combinations:

- the switching facility consists of a switching facility which can be actuated manually by a user;



- 0902544-0433  
T0E140-44520850
- the switching facility comprises voltage detection means provided in a circuit for interfacing with a switched telephone network;
  - said first means for dialing telephone numbers and  
5 the associated modem are disposed in a box separate from the remainder of the device, the box comprising, connected at the input of these latter, a circuit for emulating a switched telephone network associated with means for detecting telephone  
10 numbers dialed by said second means for dialing and means for matching the speeds of transmission of the data transmitted between the first and second means for dialing telephone numbers;
  - the matching means consist of means of temporary  
15 storage of the data;
  - the emulating circuit is connected to the second means for dialing telephone numbers by a wireless link, in particular an infrared link of the IrDA type;
  - the first means for dialing telephone numbers are  
20 connected to a wireless telephone set;

- the first means for dialing telephone numbers are connected to the telephone set by a wireless link, in particular an infrared link of the IrDA type;

- 25 - it constitutes an electronic payment terminal;  
- it constitutes a device for reading and verifying checks.

Other characteristics and advantages will emerge from the following description, which are given  
30 merely by way of example, and with reference to the appended drawings in which:

- figure 1 is a perspective diagrammatic view of an exemplary embodiment of a device for acquiring and transferring information, according to the invention;
- 35 - figure 2 is a schematic diagram of the device of figure 1; and

- figure 3 is a schematic diagram showing the make-up of another embodiment of a device for acquiring and transferring information relating to payment means.

Represented in figure 1 is a device for  
5 acquiring and transferring information relating to payment means.

In the exemplary embodiment represented in this figure, the device, designated by the general numerical reference 10, consists of an electronic payment  
10 terminal for, as is conventional, reading information contained in a payment bank card (not represented) such as the bank references and the name of the card bearer and for transferring this information to the server center of a banking organization, accompanied by  
15 information corresponding to a transaction to be performed.

The device 10 comprises, as is conventional, a terminal proper 12 equipped with readers 14 for chip and magnetic-strip bank cards, and a keypad 16 making  
20 it possible to manually enter the data corresponding to the transactions to be performed, and a base 18 on which the terminal 12 rests, in the idle position.

As may be seen in figure 2, the base 18 comprises a central data processing unit 20 to which  
25 are connected first means for dialing telephone numbers 22 and second means for dialing telephone numbers 24.

The first and second means for dialing telephone numbers 22 and 24 are each associated with a modem, 26 and 28 respectively, catering, on the one  
30 hand, on transmission, for the modulation of the data emanating from the processing unit 20 with a view to its transmission over telephone networks and, on the other hand, on reception, for the demodulation of the data received from the banking organization with a view  
35 to its transmission to the processing unit 20.

The first, 22, and second 24, means for dialing telephone numbers are means of conventional type,

09807544-041301

appropriate for the use envisaged. They will therefore not be described in detail.

It will however be noted that the first means 22 for dialing telephone numbers and the modem 26 are made from elements of wireless telephony circuits, that is to say, they are able to cater for the keying and transmission of the numerical data over a "mobile" or "wireless" telephony network, being thus able as a function of the standard used for the transmission of the data.

It will also be noted that the second means 24 for dialing telephone numbers consist of elements of telephone circuits of the DTMF type allowing dialing on the public switched telephone network.

Two interface circuits, 30 and 32, respectively connected to the first and second means for dialing telephone numbers and to the associated modem cater for the connection of the device, on the one hand, to the wireless telephony telephone network and, on the other hand, to the switched telephone network.

Specifically, the first interface circuit 30 is intended to allow the plugging in of a cellular telephone set 34 (figure 1), whilst the second interface circuit 32 will be connected up directly to a telephone line.

The circuit of the base is completed with a switching circuit 36 for selectively placing the data processing unit 20 in communication with the first or second means for dialing telephone numbers with a view to exchanging information with a server center, after establishing a telephone communication, either via the switched telephone network, or via the "mobile" telephony network.

According to a first embodiment, the switching circuit 36 consists of a selector which can be manually actuated by a user, for example by means of a pushbutton, as a function of the chosen mode of transmission.

As a variant, the switching circuit 36 caters for detection of the voltage present at the level of the second interface circuit 32, that is to say at the level of the zone of connection thereof to the switched telephone network, by using an appropriate voltage detector, and places the processing unit 20 in communication with the switched telephone network in the event of detecting a voltage equal to 48 V for France for example, corresponding to the voltage conventionally present on a telephone line, and simultaneously disconnects the unit 20 from the first interface circuit 30.

In the exemplary embodiment just described with reference to figure 2, the assembly of elements allowing the establishment of a wireless telephone link, by way of a cellular telephone set, with the server center of a banking organization are built into the base, to which the cellular telephone set will be linked.

It would be possible, as a variant, to build the telephone set into the base, by furnishing the base with all the telephone circuits required for establishing a telephone link.

According to another exemplary embodiment, represented in figure 3, the first means for dialing telephone numbers and the associated modem are incorporated into a separate box which will be plugged into the telephone socket of the base of a conventional electronic payment terminal, the second means for dialing telephone numbers and the modem being disposed in the base.

In this figure, elements identical to those of figure 2 bear the same reference numbers.

As may be seen in this figure, according to this exemplary embodiment, the device comprises, at input, a circuit 38 emulating the fixed network, of the conventional type, catering for reception of the data delivered by the base 18 of the electronic payment

terminal 10, and connected to a circuit for detecting telephone numbers dialed by the means for dialing telephone numbers built into the base, designated by the general numerical reference 40 and which are  
5 associated with a modem 42, likewise of conventional type.

The detection circuit 40 and the modem 42 are connected to means 44 for dialing telephone numbers and to a corresponding modem 46, which are identical to the  
10 first means for dialing telephone numbers 22 and to the modem 26 of figure 2, themselves connected to an interface circuit 48 to which a cellular telephone set (not represented) will be connected.

A circuit 50 for matching the speeds of  
15 transmission of the data transmitted between the first and second means for dialing telephone numbers, disposed respectively in the separate box and in the base, is disposed, between, on the one hand, the detection circuit 40 and the associated modem 42 and,  
20 on the other hand, the circuit for dialing telephone numbers 44 and the associated modem 46.

This circuit 50 incorporates means of temporary storage of the data transmitted between the base and the mobile telephone network so as to match the speed  
25 of transmission of the data conveyed over the fixed switched telephone network to those of the mobile telephone network.

It will be appreciated that this exemplary embodiment makes it possible to transmit data toward a  
30 banking organization, using a cellular telephone whilst also using a payment terminal of conventional type.

In the exemplary embodiments described above, the cellular telephone set has been regarded as being connected, by means of a wire link, to the corres-  
35 ponding interface.

It would however be possible, as a variant, to cater for communication between the cellular telephone

05802544-041301

and the device by using a wireless link, for example an infrared link of the IrDA type.

Likewise, it would also be possible, in the exemplary embodiment described with reference to figure 3, to envisage the use of such a wireless link between the electronic payment terminal and the box.

The invention is not limited to the embodiments described, in which the device consists of an electronic payment terminal.

Indeed, the device can also be contrived in the form of a device for reading and verifying checks so as to read the references which a check bears and to transmit them towards a banking organization with a view to verifying, for example, that the check is not subject to a stop instruction.

09302544-041301

CLAIMS

1. A device for acquiring information relating to payment means and for transferring this information to a server center of a banking organization, the device comprising means (14) for reading the payment means connected to a central processing unit (20) and means (22) for dialing telephone numbers associated with a modem (26) for establishing a telephone link with the server center, in which the means (22;44) for dialing telephone numbers and the associated modem (26;46) consist of elements of wireless telephony circuits, characterized in that the device furthermore comprises second means (24) for dialing telephone numbers and a second modem (28) associated with these means, consisting of elements of wired telephony circuits, and a switching facility (36) for selectively placing the central unit (20) in communication with the first (22) or second (24) means for dialing telephone numbers.
2. The device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the switching facility (36) consists of a switching facility which can be actuated manually by a user.
3. The device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the switching facility (36) comprises voltage detection means provided in a circuit for interfacing with a switched telephone network.
4. The device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that said first means (44) for dialing telephone numbers and the associated modem (46) are disposed in a box separate from the remainder of the device and in that the box comprises, connected at the input of these latter, a circuit (38) for emulating a switched telephone network associated with means (40) for detecting telephone numbers dialed by said second means (24) for dialing and means (50) for matching the speeds of transmission of the data transmitted between

the first and second means for dialing telephone numbers.

5. The device as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the matching means (50) consist of means of temporary storage of the data.

6. The device as claimed in one of claims 4 and 5, characterized in that the emulating circuit (38) is connected to the second means for dialing telephone numbers by a wireless link, in particular an infrared link of the IrDA type.

7. The device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the first means for dialing telephone numbers are connected to a wireless telephone set (34).

8. The device as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the first means for dialing telephone numbers are connected to the telephone set (34) by a wireless link, in particular an infrared link of the IrDA type.

9. The device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that it constitutes an electronic payment terminal.

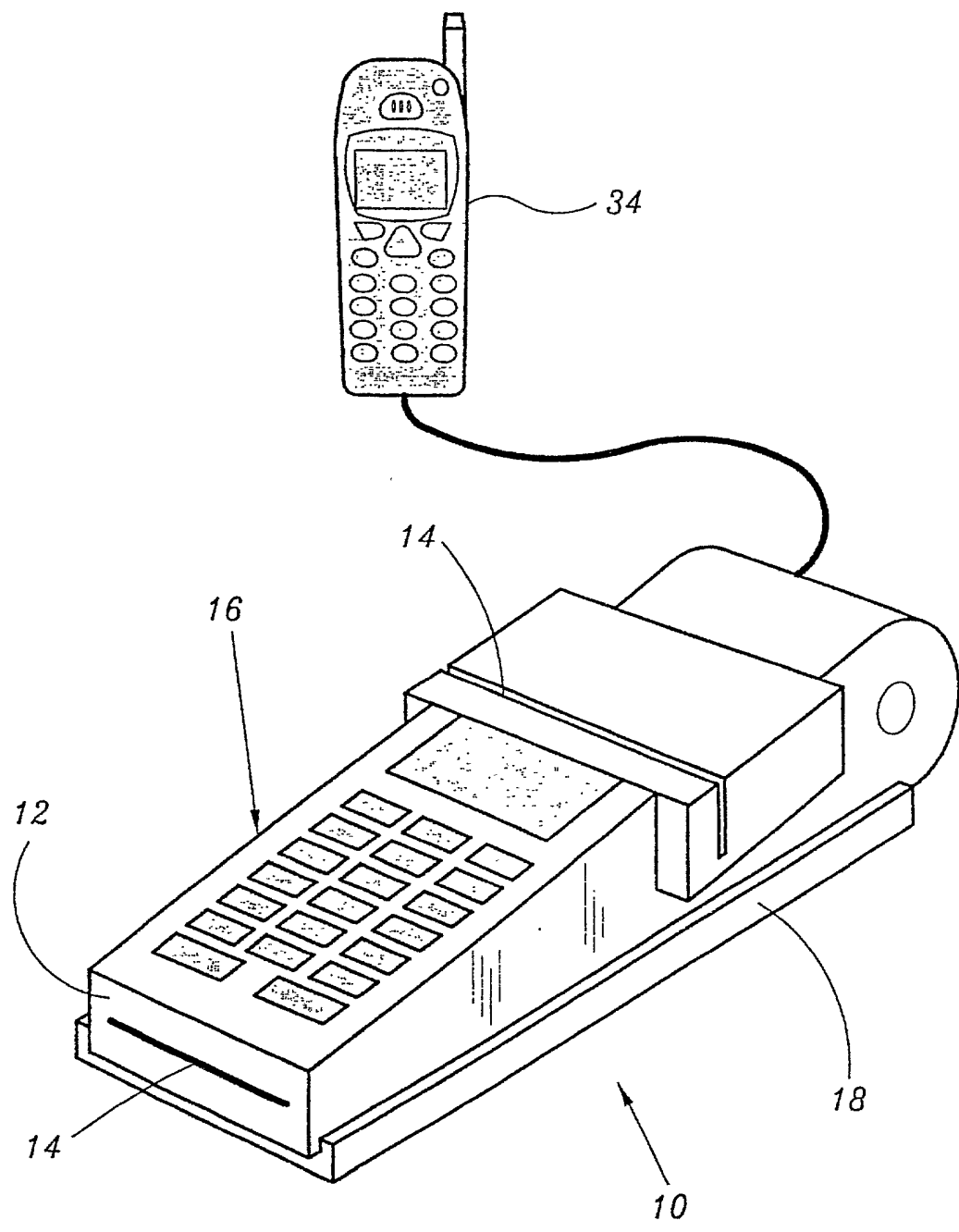
10. The device as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that it constitutes a device for reading and verifying checks.



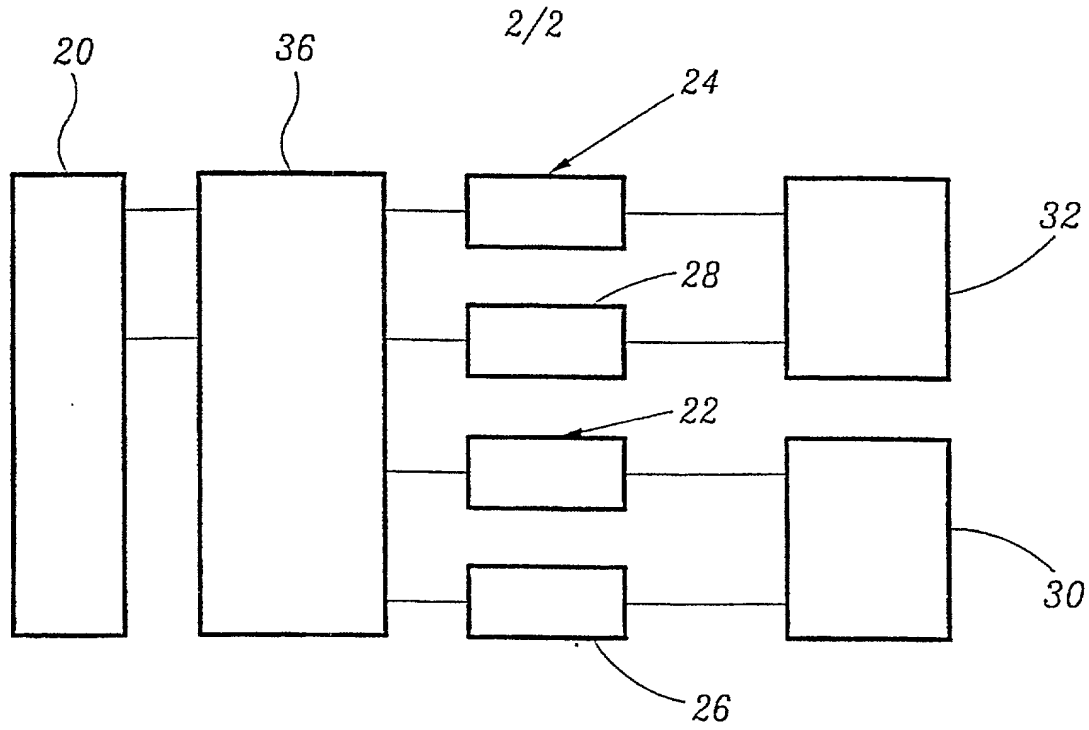
## ABSTRACT

The invention concerns a device for acquiring data concerning payment means and transferring same to a central service of a banking institution comprising means for reading the payment means connected to a central processing unit (20) and means (22) for dialling telephone numbers associated with a modem (26) for setting up a telephone communication with the central service. The dialling means and the associated modem consist of elements of wireless telephone circuit systems.

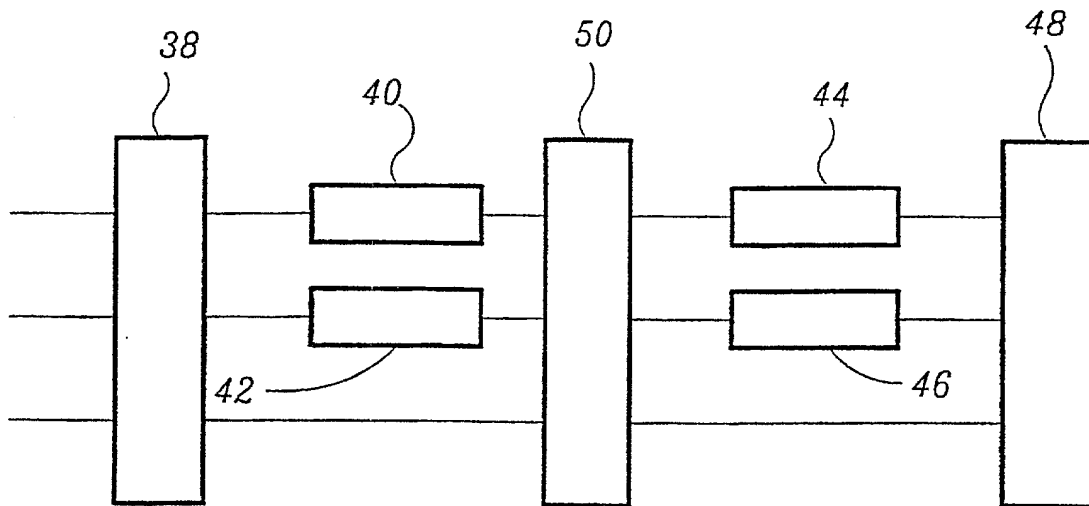
09807544-041301



**FIG. 1**



**FIG. 2**



**FIG. 3**

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

" Device for acquiring and for transferring information relating to payment means to a banking organization "

the specification of which: *(check one)*

**REGULAR OR DESIGN APPLICATION**

☒ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

**PCT FILED APPLICATION ENTERING NATIONAL STAGE**

☒ was described and claimed in International application No. PCT/FR99/02440 filed on October 11, 1999 and as amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if any).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

**PRIORITY CLAIM**

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 USC 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

**PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)**

Country	Application Number	Date of Filing (day, month, year)	Priority Claimed
FRANCE	98 12826	13/10/98	YES

*(Complete this part only if this is a continuing application.)*

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 USC 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 USC 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status--patented, pending, abandoned)

POWER OF ATTORNEY

The undersigned hereby authorizes the U.S. attorney or agent named herein to accept and follow instructions from \_\_\_\_\_ as to any action to be taken in the Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorney or agent and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the persons from whom instructions may be taken, the U.S. attorney or agent named herein will be so notified by the undersigned.

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the registered patent attorneys represented by Customer No. 000466 to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, including: Robert J. PATCH, Reg. No. 17,355, Andrew J. PATCH, Reg. No. 32,925, Robert F. HARGEST, Reg. No. 25,590, Benoît CASTEL, Reg. No. 35,041, Eric JENSEN, Reg. No. 37,855, Thomas W. PERKINS, Reg. No. 33,027, and Roland E. LONG, Jr., Reg. No. 41,949,

c/o YOUNG & THOMPSON,  
Second Floor,  
745 South 23rd Street,  
Arlington, Virginia 22202.



Address all telephone calls to Young & Thompson at 703/521-2297. Telefax: 703/685-0573.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor: <sup>1-10</sup> Bruno MILLION-ROUSSEAU  
(given name, family name)

Inventor's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date 15 Mars 2001

Residence: B.P. 61 - 13714 CASSIS CEDEX FRANCE FRX

Citizenship: French

Post Office Address: The same as above

Full name of second joint inventor, if any: <sup>2-10</sup> Christian JUNKER  
(given name, family name)

Inventor's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date 22 Mars 2001

Residence: 9, rue du Clos de Pontoise  
95170 DEUIL LA BARRE FRANCE FRX

Citizenship: French

Post Office Address: The same as above

Full name of third joint inventor, if any:  
(given name, family name)

Inventor's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Residence:

Citizenship:

Post Office Address:

Full name of fourth joint inventor:  
(given name, family name)

Inventor's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Residence:

Citizenship: